

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PEKING 00052 090945Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-13 /075 W

-----090952Z 116903 /15

O 090828Z JAN 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7039

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC FOR POLAD IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 52

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: ANNIVERSARY OF CHOU'S PASSING

REF: PEKING 51

1. SITUATION AT 1600 HOURS JANUARY 9 LOCAL.

2. CROWDS OF THE REVERENT AND THE SIMPLY CURIOUS ONCE AGAIN
BEGAIN TO GATHER IN TIENANMEN SQUARE AROUND DAYBREAK. ON
THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SQUARE, WHERE WREATHS AND FLOWER
ARRANGEMENTS NOW FILLED THE GRANDSTANDS ON EITHER SIDE OF
THE ENTRANCE TO THE FORBIDDEN CITY, THE MOOD WAS FESTIVE.
PERSONS GATHERED TO ADMIRE THE MORE ELABORATE FLORAL
CREATIONS, TO READ THE INSCRIPTIONS, AND TO SNAP PHOTOS
OF FRIENDS AND CHILDREN. A PORTRAIT OF CHOU EN-LAI SOME
SIX FEET HIGH WAS PLACED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE FORBIDDEN
CITY BENEATH THE PORTRAIT OF MAO; A LIFE-SIZE CARDBOARD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PEKING 00052 090945Z

CUTOUT PORTRAIT OF CHOU WAS PLACED IN THE CENTER OF A
FLORAL ARRANGEMENT NEAR THE BRIDGE LEADING INTO
THE FORBIDDEN CITY. BOTH WERE MAGNETS FOR AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS
IN THE CROWD. THE ONLY CONSPICUOUS POLITICAL STATEMENT ON
THE NORTH SIDE OF THE STREET WHICH HAD APPEARED ON THE 8TH --
THE PEOPLE'S DAILY FRONT PAGE SHOWING TENG DELIVERING THE
FUNERAL EULOGY -- WAS STILL IN PLACE BUT MOVED ABOUT TEN

FEET UP ON A POLE, OUT OF REACH OF ANY WHO MIGHT HAVE WISHED TO RIP IT DOWN OR BLACK OUT ADDITIONAL FACES.

3. THE POLITICALLY INCLINED CONTINUED TO CLUSTER AROUND POSTERS, ESSAYS, AND GRAFFITI ON CHANG AN STREET NEAR THE PEKING HOTEL AND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF TIENANMEN SQUARE. NEW POSTERS CONTINUED TO PROLIFERATE ON THE WOODEN FENCE SURROUNDING THE MAO MAUSOLEUM WORK SITE, FOR THE FIRST TIME APPEARING ON THE PORTION OF THE FENCE FACING EAST TO THE CHINESE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND THE REVOLUTION. THE BOLD POSTERS PROCLAIMING THE DISTRUST OF PEKING'S CITIZENRY FOR FIRST SECRETARY WU TEH WERE RIPPED APART BY EARLY MORNING, WHETHER BY WU'S SUPPORTERS OR THE FIERCE WINDS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY. BUT THE ACCOMPANYING GRAFFITI DEMANDING THAT WU MAKE A SERIOUS INVESTIGATION REPORT TO THE PEOPLE AND PUNNING THAT WU TEH IS SIMPLY "WU TEH" (WITHOUT VIRTUE) REMAINED VISIBLE. LARGE GROUPS GATHERED AROUND THESE, SOME SNICKERING BUT MOST READING ALOUD IN MATTER-OF-FACT TONES OR SIMPLY PASSING ON QUETLY. ONE ELDERLY WOMAN STATED DISPARAGINGLY TO A COMPANION THAT THE VARIOUS ANTI-WU WORKS SEEMED TO BE THE PRODUCT OF ONE PEN.

4. PRO-TENG STATEMENTS WERE MORE IN EVIDENCE THAN EVER. ONE STATEMENT IN VERSE PLAYED ON THE CHINESE CHARACTER "HSIN" (HEART), ENDING EACH LINE WITH THAT WORD: "WE HAVE CONFIDENCE (HSIN-HSIN) IN CHAIRMAN JUA; WE ARE RESOLVED (CHUEH-HSIN) TO LIVERRATE TAIWAN; CHAIRMAN HUA CAN REST AT EASE (FANG-HSIN); COMRADE TENG HAS NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PEKING 00052 090945Z

AMBITION (YEH-HSIN)" AND SO ON. ANOTHER PASSIONATELY -ARGUED POSTER COMPARED THE "5-4 SPIRIT" (REFERRING TO THE MAY FOURTH MOVEMENT RENOWNEDMW CHINESE HISTORY) WITH THE "4-5 SPIRIT" (REFERRING TO THE TIENANMEN DEMONSTRATIONS ON APRIL 5, 1976), DEMANDING THAT TENG HSIAO-PING'S REPUTATION BE RESTORED, HIS PARTY AND STATE POSITIONS RETURNED, AND WORK BE GIVEN HIM. ONLY IF THIS OCCURRED AND THE "HENCHMEN" OF THE GANG OF FOUR WERE PURGED COULD THE SOUL OF PREMIER CHOU REST IN PEACE AND THE SPIRIT OF THE "4-5 MOVEMENT" BE VINDICATED. YET ANOTHER SCRAWLED MESSAGE DEMANDED THAT TENG BE RETURNED TO WORK "IMMEDIATELY."

5. ON CHANG AN STREET THE CROWD-PLEASING EFFIGIES OF THE GANG OF FOUR NO LONGER SWUNG FROM THEIR LIMB, VICTIMS, PERHAPS, OF SOUVENIR-HUNTERS OR THE WINDS.

6. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF CHOU'S PASSING AT THE POLITBURO LEVEL. THIS IS ALL THE MORE SURPRISING WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THAT

SELECTED FOREIGNERS -- NOTABLY REWI ALLEY AND PAUL LIN
OF CANADA'S MCGILL UNIVERSITY -- HAD BEEN INVITED TO
A CEREMONY THEY BELIEVED WAS SCHEDULED FOR THE 8TH.
GATES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, SECURITY CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PEKING00052
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770008-0479
Format: TEL
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770168/aaaachng.tel
Line Count: 120
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b900b7db-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PEKING 51
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3636535
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANNIVERSARY OF CHOU'S PASSING
TAGS: PINT, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b900b7db-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009